

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-31 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 4, 18-19 and 24-27 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has maintained from the previous Office Action the following two claim rejections:

1. The 35 USC §102(b) rejection of claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5/ 15/6, 20, 21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 as anticipated by **Hager et al.**; and
2. The 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5/, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 as unpatentable over **Vaghese et al.** in view of **Genix et al.**

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Regarding the 35 USC §102(b) rejection, the Examiner has urged:

The hardness for elements 64 and 68 which are used simultaneously is different and thus the materials are different. Element 68 is clearly a shock absorbing member and is mounted between the side of the disk drive and the side of the disk accommodating unit as described in the above rejection.

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Hager et al. clearly states that all elements 64, 68 are made of the same material, namely, SORBOTHANE, although elements 68 differ in hardness from each other somewhat.

Furthermore, although **Hager et al.** teaches various types of materials with differing hardnesses (or vibration/shock absorbing characteristics), it should be noted that **Hager et al.** does

not teach using such various types of materials simultaneously for the shock/vibration members.

In other words, Hager et al. is silent regarding the simultaneous use of mutually different materials for the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided at one location and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided at another location within the electronic apparatus.

Hager et al. also does not teach that the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material having a higher vibration absorbing characteristic than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface, and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface has a higher shock absorbing characteristic than the material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface, as in the present invention, as recited in claims 30 and 31.

Regarding the 35 USC §103(a) rejection, the Examiner has urged that the dictionary definition of the PCB board in Genix et al. states that the PCB is made of non-conducting material on which chips and other electronic components are mounted.

In contrast, the insulated sheet member claimed in the present invention is entirely insulative and contains no electrical components mounted on wiring circuits, as does the PCB 22 of Genix et al. The wiring circuits contained on the PCB 22 would provide electrical conductivity from one side to the other, even though the PCB itself is made of non-conductive material.

Accordingly, claims 1, 4, 18-19 and 24-27 have been amended to recite that the sheet is

entirely electrically insulative.

Thus, the 35 USC §102(b) and 35 USC §103(a) rejections should be withdrawn.

Claims 10-13, 14/10, 14/12, 15/10, 15/12, 16/10, 16/12, 17/10, 17/12, 22, 23 and 31/22 have been allowed.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1, 2 and 4-31, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**".

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney, at the telephone number indicated below, to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/184,878

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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WLB:mlg

Enclosures: Version With Markings To Show Changes Made
Petition for Extension of Time

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 4, 18-19 and 24-27 have been amended as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

4. (Three Times Amended) An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbing vibration and/or shock, provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

18. (Three Times Amended) A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

- a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;
- a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part;
- a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock and is arranged between the lid member and the disk unit which is mounted; and
- an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

19. (Three Times Amended) A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

- a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;
- a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part; and
- a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbs vibration and/or shock, arranged between the lid member and the arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted; and
- an entirely electrically insulative sheet member arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted.

24. (Twice Amended) An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

25. (Twice Amended) An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:
a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbing vibration and/or shock, provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

26. (Twice Amended) A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;

a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part;

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock and is arranged between the lid member and the disk unit which is mounted; and

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

27. (Twice Amended). A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;

a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part; and

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbs vibration and/or shock, arranged between the lid member and the arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted;

an entirely electrically insulative sheet member arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.